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Eastern District of Virginia

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MEDIA RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Norfolk, Virginia – Paul J. McNulty, United States Attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia, announced that Jason Douglas Bunn, age 28, of Clarksburg, West Virginia, pled guilty today in U.S. District Court in Norfolk to one count of mailing threatening communications. Bunn's sentencing is set for December 16, 2002, at 11:00 a.m., at which time he faces a maximum sentence of ten years imprisonment.

Bunn was stationed at NAS Oceana and Portsmouth Naval Hospital as a Hospital Corpsman prior to his general discharge from the United States Navy in December 2000. Angry with the Navy over his discharge, he mailed six letters containing what initially appeared to be anthrax to individuals and command personnel stationed at the Portsmouth Naval Hospital and the medical clinic at NAS Oceana. These individuals had been involved with Bunn's discharge. Laboratory analysis on the powder revealed it to be harmless. This is the third federal conviction for anthrax hoax cases in the Hampton Roads area.

The investigation was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Naval Criminal Investigative Service. Assistant United States Attorneys Michael R. Smythers and Michael C. Moore prosecuted the case.